Claims 1-14   (cancelled)

15.   (currently amended) A particle blast apparatus, comprising:

(a)   a hopper for receiving particles ~~for introduction into a flow of transport gas;~~ ~~and~~

(b)   <u>a feeder configured to receive said particles from said hopper and introduce said particles into a flow of transport gas; and</u>

<u>(c)</u>   an impulse assembly configured to impart energy to said hopper <u>wit hout substantially imparting energy to said feeder</u>, said impulse assembly carried by said hopper.

16.   (cancelled)

17.   (original) The particle blast apparatus of claim 15, comprising a frame, said frame supporting said hopper, said hopper not being rigidly supported by said frame.

18.   (previously presented) The particle blast apparatus of claim 15, wherein said hopper comprises an exit, and wherein said impulse assembly is carried by said hopper adjacent said exit.

19.   (currently amended) The particle blast apparatus of claim 15, wherein said <u>feeder</u> ~~particles are cryogenic particles and said apparatus~~ is configured to introduce ~~said~~ <u>cryogenic</u> particles into the flow of transport gas.

20.   (cancelled)

21.   (previously presented) The particle blast apparatus of claim 15 or 19, wherein said impulse assembly comprises at least one member which is reciprocated between first and second positions.

22.   (previously presented) The particle blast apparatus of claim 21, wherein said at least one member reciprocates along a linear axis.

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23.   (original)   The particle blast apparatus of claim 22, wherein said axis is horizontal.

24.   (cancelled)

25.   (currently amended)   The particle blast apparatus of claim 15 or 19, further comprising a vibrator configured to impart energy to said hopper.

26.   (original)   The particle blast apparatus of claim 25, wherein said vibrator comprises an axis of rotation and said hopper comprises an inclined wall, said axis being parallel to said inclined wall.

27.   (cancelled)

28.   (previously presented)   The particle blast apparatus of claim 25, wherein said vibrator is carried by said hopper.

Claims 29 – 38   (cancelled)